

UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES ELEMENT

General Overview

People and communities need a whole host of community-type facilities and services. Some of these services are needed to provide basic levels of health and safety, while others help to maintain a high quality of life, foster job creation and create a sustainable economy.

Historically, the distinction between private-sector services and those provided by the public sector was quite clear. However, this distinction can be quite different from community to community and can shift within a community over time. With the trend of privatization, some services that were historically provided by government are now offered by private-sector companies. Likewise, some services typically thought of as private-sector ventures, are now in the realm of the public sector.

The provision of community-type services is a key element of this plan and follows the general direction established by the Land-Use Element. As the population of a community grows, it may be necessary to build more facilities or consider providing new services.

Objective of Element

The intent of this element is to provide basic information on the community-type services currently offered in the Town with the exception of transportation related facilities, which are addressed in another separate element of this plan (Exhibit F-1). The location, use, capacity and extent of services are identified for both public- and private-sector utilities and services.

All of this will help to identify what public services should be expanded or rehabilitated and what if any new services could be provided to meet an unmet need.

Exhibit F-1. Basic Objectives of the Utilities and Community Facilities Element.

- Identify and describe the full range of community-type services currently provided.
- Identify the capacity of these services.
- Identify unmet community-wide needs.
- Identify what public facilities will need to be expanded in the future to accommodate additional residents and commercial and industrial uses.
- Develop goals and objectives that will accommodate the needs of current and future residents.

Existing Facilities and Services

Water and Wastewater Facilities

Homes and businesses in the Town are served by individual wells and on-site waste disposal system. Given the low density of most development, the construction of a central water and waste collection system has not been economically warranted. However, if a particular subdivision is encountering problems with failed systems and water or sewer service is available, the economics may change to warrant the installation. Likewise, connection to a

central wastewater treatment may be feasible if higher densities are permitted in the future land use map.

Stormwater Management Facilities

Given the current type of development there currently are no public facilities for stormwater management in the Town. Localized circumstances may require that developers construct and maintain private facilities necessary to accommodate the needs of the development project. Therefore, stormwater management plans will need to be required in all new developments.

Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling

The Town has a contract with Waste Management Inc. for collection and disposal of solid waste and recyclables. In 2000, the Town authorized a new five-year contract. After collection, the solid waste is then taken various landfills in the region.

Recreation Facilities

Currently, the Town owns and maintains 12 park areas totaling 25.9 acres (Table F-1 and Map F-1). Most of these are relatively small and were dedicated through the subdivision process. They primarily fill the need for individual neighborhoods and contain a varying mix of equipment for active recreation activities. The Town maintains these areas and makes improvements as needed and as funds allow.

Table F-1. Park Areas: 2000

Name	Size (Acres)	Facility Description
Nondahl Park #1	1.3	No facilities
Nondahl Park #2	1.25	Basketball court, picnic table, slide, monkey bars, merry-go-round, large slide, 4 swings
Cedar Knolls Park	2.75	Tetherball, picnic table, monkey bars, slide, swings, volleyball court, basketball court, softball diamond with backstop, 2 small rocking horses
Ravenwood Park	2.0	Soccer field, 7 slides, monkey bars, 6 swings, backstop, basketball court, merry-go-round, small shelter
Meadow Grove Park	2.0	Volleyball court, monkey bars, 2 picnic tables, 2 small rocking horses, 6 swings, basketball court, baseball diamond with backstop
Elmargo Park	1.0	Monkey bars, basketball court, tether ball, tetter-totter, swing set, picnic table
American Heritage Park #1	4.5	4 swings, picnic table, bench, big slide, monkey bars, spiral slide, 2 rocking horses, tether ball, monkey dome
American Heritage Park #2	4.0	Soccer field, backstop, merry-go-round, monkey bars, tires, 4 swings, large slide, 2 picnic tables, bike rack, 2 benches, sandbox
Town Hall	2.5	Soccer field
Bass Park	2.5	2 merry-go-rounds, 4 swings, shelter, tetherball, basketball court, monkey bars, digger, backstop
Bohnsac Park	1.5	Basketball court
Rolling Wheels	0.6	Undeveloped
Total Acres	25.9	

Sources: Field survey (June 2000)

Town of Cottage Grove

The Monona Grove School District has playground equipment at Cottage Grove Elementary School and at Taylor Prairie Elementary School. A 58-acre school forest is located behind Cottage Grove Elementary School.

The village of Cottage Grove maintains 6 parks totally 38.9 acres. They include Community Park, Firemen's Park, Governor Taylor Park, Huston Park, Northlawn Park and Willow Run Park. The Village has plans to expand Firemen's Park.

Page reserved for Map F-1. Park and Recreation Facilities

The Glacial Drumlin State Trail is located in the Town and is part of a statewide network of trails being developed by the Department of Natural Resources and other collaborators. The trailhead is located in the Village and the trail bisects the Town and extends east into Waukesha County. The DNR is actively working to secure the necessary right-of-way so that the trail

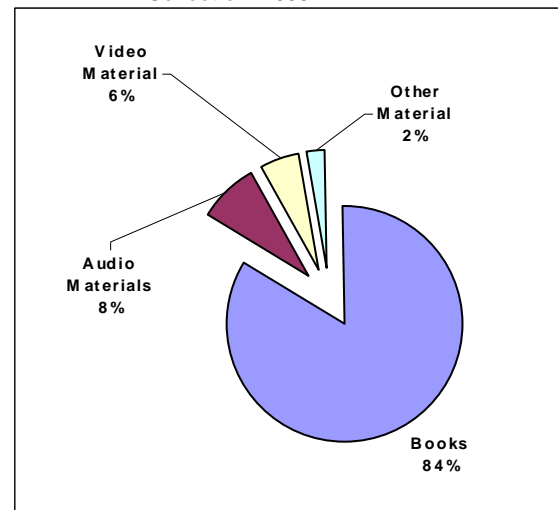


will eventually extend west into Madison and points beyond. This trail accommodates a wide range of activities including biking, hiking, pleasure walking and snowmobile use. There are no state or county parks located in the Town.

Library Services

The Town is served by the Dane County Library Service, which serves those areas of Dane County that are not located within a service area of another public library. Currently, a bookmobile stops in 16 communities on a regular weekly schedule. In the Cottage Grove area, the bookmobile stops on Wednesdays at the Village Municipal Building and at Taylor Prairie School. Its collection consists of over 65,700 items and includes books, magazines, books on tape, videos and CD's (Exhibit F-2). In 1999, the library had over 352,100 registered patrons and a total circulation of over 157,109 items (82,747 adults and 74,363 children). Over 94 percent of the \$2.5 million operating budget comes from Dane County.

Exhibit F-2. Dane County Library Service Collection: 1999



Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 1999 Library Annual Reports

Dane County Library Service is part of the South Central Library System, which includes libraries in Adams, Dane, Columbia, Green, Portage, Sauk and Wood Counties. Pinney Public Library, a branch of the Madison Public Library, is the closest full-service public library. It is located at 204 Cottage Grove Road.

Police Services

The Cottage Grove Police Department provides public safety to both the village and town of Cottage Grove, a 36-square mile area. The department is responsible for law enforcement, crime investigation, patrol, traffic supervision and a number of other programs, including DARE. Department personnel include eight full-time officers (chief, 1 sergeant and 6 patrol officers) and one civilian. Based on current staffing levels, the department operates about 23 hours per day with three shifts. When no officer is on duty, the County Sheriff is called to provide backup. Department equipment consists of five police squad cars. Village



personnel operate four school crossings, with emergency backup from the department.

The department is located in the Emergency Services Building along with the fire department, emergency medical services and emergency government. The Dane County 911 Center answers emergency calls for police, ambulance and the fire district.

The Police Department is operated under an interlocal agreement that was adopted in 1983. A Law Enforcement Committee consisting of three members of the Town Board and three members of the Village Board provides administrative oversight and control. The Town and Village share in the cost of the department equally.

With a combined population of 6,942 (3,984 in the Town and 2,958 in the Village), the staffing ratio is 1.1, which is below the 1998 statewide average of 2.3 officers per 1,000 residents. The department's staffing ratio does however meet the Dane County Regional Planning Commission standard of 1 officer per 1,000 population.

Fire Protection

The fire department is an all-volunteer service and provides protection to the Village and Town through an interlocal agreement that was adopted in the 1950's. Staff includes 40 volunteer firefighters and 5 auxiliary members. The firefighters are called to a situation by pagers. On average, 12 firefighters respond during the daytime and more respond in the evenings. Equipment includes two engines, two tanker trucks, one brush truck, hand ladders reaching 35 feet and one heavy rescue truck with extrication equipment, lighting and cascade air. As the Village grows with more intensive development, the department may need to acquire a ladder/pumper truck.

Both the Village and Town pay for the operating costs based on property valuation. However, the Town pays the total cost of the tanker trucks because of the lack of public water and hydrants in the Town.

The department currently maintains an ISO fire rating of 5 in the Village and 6 in the Town. It just completed an ISO audit and should know by the middle of 2001 if the fire rating will be lowered. The department responded to 88 calls in 1998 and 133 in 1999. It is anticipated that during 2000, the number of fire calls will be about 120. The department has a mutual aid agreement with all fire departments in Dane County.

Emergency Medical Services

The Deer – Grove Emergency Medical Services District serves the towns of Cottage Grove and Deerfield and the villages of Cottage Grove and Deerfield. Staff includes 40 volunteers, 1 full-time administrator and 2 part-time members. Individual pagers are used to notify scheduled volunteers of calls. The district owns and operates one fully equipped ambulance and one first-response vehicle. Between two to four EMTs are available to respond to each request for service.

Municipal Buildings

The Town owns a number of buildings. The municipal building is located at 4058 Highway N and includes administrative office space and meeting rooms. Recently, a portion of it was remodeled for more administrative space. The Department of Public Works has a main garage, a salt shed and a pole building for cold-weather storage. The Department's garage is the former fire department building, which they remodeled and moved into during the summer of 2000. The former road shop is



stilled owned by the Town, but is leased out. The Emergency Services Building houses the fire department, police department, emergency medical services and the emergency operation center. The former Town Hall (116 W. Reynolds Street) is located in the Village and is used for special occasions. The original fire station is also located at this site.

Health Care Facilities

Although there are no hospitals, clinics, or physician offices located in the Town, health care and medical facilities are close and readily accessible. There are three chiropractic clinics in the Village along with two medical clinics. Madison is home to three GMS hospitals including: Meriter Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center and University of Wisconsin Hospital & Clinics (Table F-2).

Meriter Hospital is a 448-bed community hospital providing primary care and care in all major medical specialties. St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center has 440 beds and offers a full range of inpatient and outpatient treatment and diagnostic services in primary care and nearly all specialties. The University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics has 463 beds and is involved in teaching and research along with patient care. It is recognized as a national leader in many medical specialties.

Table F-2. Selected Types of Health Care Facilities; Dane County: 2000

Facility Type	Number
General Medical-Surgical (GMS) Hospitals	3
Specialty Hospitals	
Psychiatric Hospitals	0
Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AODA) Hospitals	0
State-Operated Mental Health Institutes	1
Rehabilitation Hospitals	0
Veterans Administration Hospitals	1
Ambulatory Surgery Centers	3

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health and Human Services

Mendota Mental Health Institute is also located in the Madison area. It provides diagnostic, therapeutic and support services to patients with mental, emotional, or development disorders. The William S. Middleton Memorial VA Medical Center is located in Madison and is operated by the Veterans Health Administration. It is an acute care facility with 87 beds. Three ambulatory surgery centers are located in the Madison area and include: Surgery and Care Center on South Brooks Street, Davis Duehr Surgery Center on Regent Street and Physicians Plus Surgery Center on South Park Street.

As shown by the data in Table F-3, Dane County has more health care professionals per capita than the state. In some categories Dane County has about double the number of health care professionals than the state.

Table F-3. Health Care Professionals Per 10,000 Population: Dane County and Wisconsin: Selected Years

	Physicians 1993	Primary Care Physicians 1993	Physician Assistants 1994	Registered Nurses 1994	Chiropractors 1993	Dentists 1994
Dane County	26.4	11.0	1.4	131.8	1.8	6.6
Wisconsin	14.4	6.2	0.9	83.5	1.8	5.9

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services

Child Care Facilities

As more families are headed by a single parent and as more women enter the workforce, the number of children needing day care is a significant consideration for families and employers alike. Within the village and town of Cottage Grove, there are 9 child care facilities with a total capacity of 268 (Table F-4). In addition, child care centers in the Deerfield area have a capacity of 16 and in the Sun Prairie area there is a capacity of 848. Childcare is generally at a premium and many providers in the area have waiting lists.

Table F-4. Child Care Facilities; Village and Town of Cottage Grove: 2000

Facility	Class	Capacity	Age Served
All About Kids	Family	8	1 day to 10 years
Bright Day	Family	8	6 months to 9 years
Happy Faces Family	Family	8	6 weeks to 12 years
Imagination Station	Family	8	6 weeks to 12 years
Kozy Kids Koral	Group	50	6 weeks to 10 years
Laura's Lullabye	Family	8	1 day to 10 years
Learning Ladder	Group	150	2 years to 11 years
Pam's Home Care for TOTS	Family	8	8 weeks to 7 years
YMCA of Dane County	Group	20	5 years to 12 years

Source: Division of Children and Family Services, Bureau of Regulation and Licensing, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services

Cemeteries

There are five cemeteries in the town of Cottage Grove (Table F-5). Two are under private ownership and the Town owns and manages the remainder. The Town assumed ownership and care of Salem Cemetery and Door Creek when they were abandoned and Liberty Prairie when the Board of Directors could no longer provide care and management.

Table F-5. Cemeteries: 2000

Name	Location	Ownership	Size (Acres)
Hope Lutheran Church Cemetery	3702 CTH AB	Private	3
Highland Memorial Gardens & Chapel Mausoleum	3054 CTH BB	Private	37
Salem Cemetery	CTH BB	Town of Cottage Grove	1
Liberty Prairie Cemetery	STH 12/18	Town of Cottage Grove	1
Door Creek Cemetery	Ofsthun Road	Town of Cottage Grove	2

Source: Town of Cottage Grove

Electrical and Natural Gas Transmission

Madison Gas & Electric and Wisconsin Power and Light Company provide electrical power and natural gas to customers in the Town. There are a number of electrical substations in the Town and Village.

Telecommunications Facilities and Fiber Optics

Verizon provides telephone service to Town residents and Charter Communications provides cable TV service. Cellular phone service is offered by a number of companies. The Town is currently not served by fiber optic lines.

Schools

The Town is located in six different school districts. They include Deerfield Community, Marshall, McFarland, Monona Grove, Stoughton Area and Sun Prairie Area. Table F-6 lists each of the school districts and 1999-00 enrollments.

The majority of students living in the Town either attend Deerfield Community, Monona Grove, or Stoughton Area. The remaining

Table F-6. School Enrollments: 1999/2000

School District	Enrollment
Deerfield Community School District	762
Marshall School District	1,155
McFarland School District	1,938
Monona Grove School District	2,637
Stoughton Area School District	3,539
Sun Prairie Area School District	4,738

Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Library and Statistical Information Center

school districts account for a relatively small number of students.

The Monona Grove School District is the only district that has a school in the area. It operates Cottage Grove Elementary School (470 North Main) and Taylor Prairie Elementary School (900 N Park View). Cottage Grove Elementary School was built in the 1950's with a number of additions, the largest of which was built in 1992. Taylor Prairie Elementary School is the newest facility and was authorized by voters in 1994.

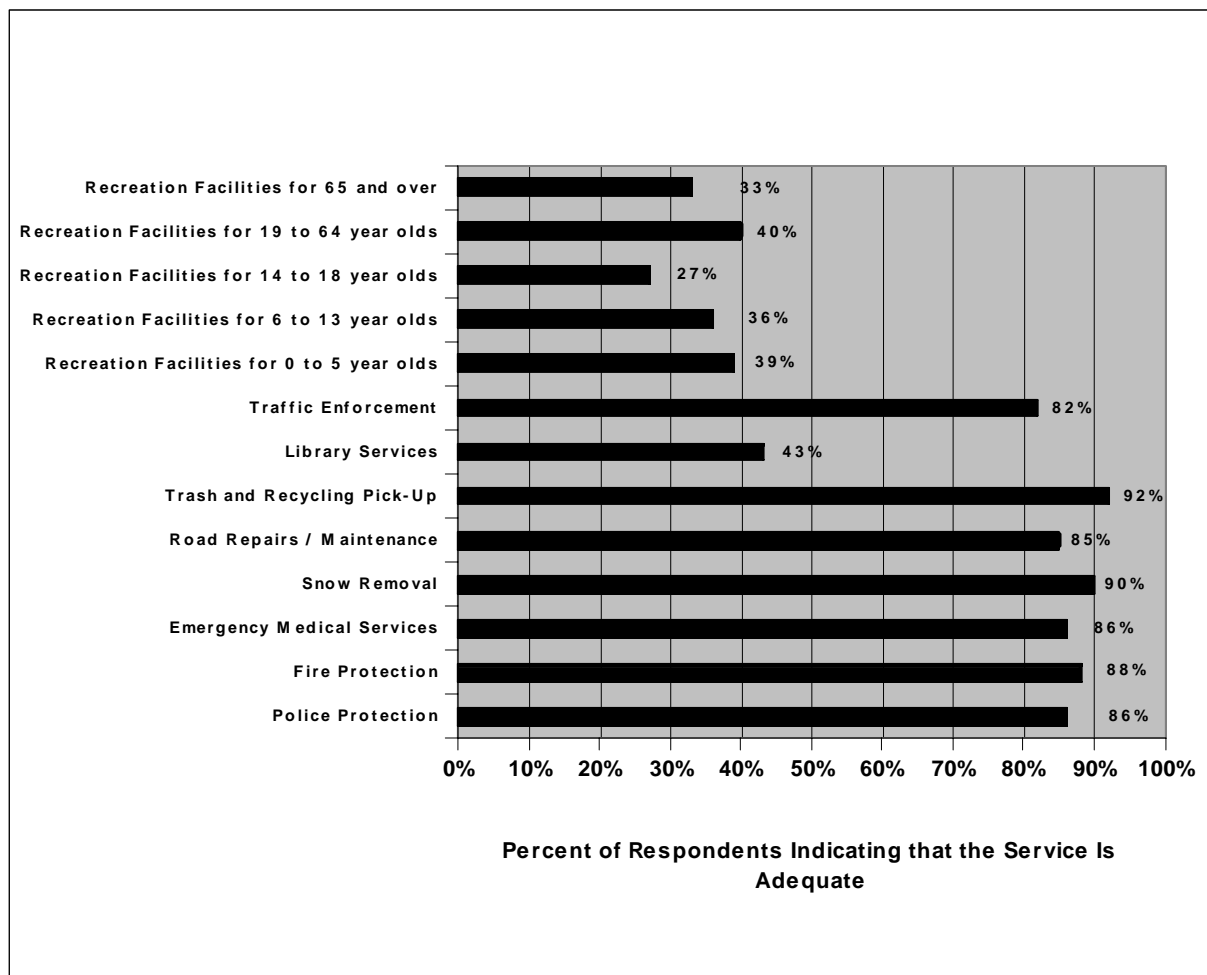
There are two private schools located in the Monona Grove School District, but none in the Town or Village.

Selected Survey Results

Services

A number of questions were included in the Community Survey to gauge resident's satisfaction with selected community services (see Appendix C). Of the 13 services/facilities listed in Exhibit F-3, over 80 percent of the respondents felt that seven were adequate. Trash and recycling pick-up received the highest levels of satisfaction followed closely by snow removal and fire protection. Services/facilities receiving less favorable responses include library services and recreational opportunities for all age groups.

Exhibit F-3. Adequacy of Selected Community Services: 2000



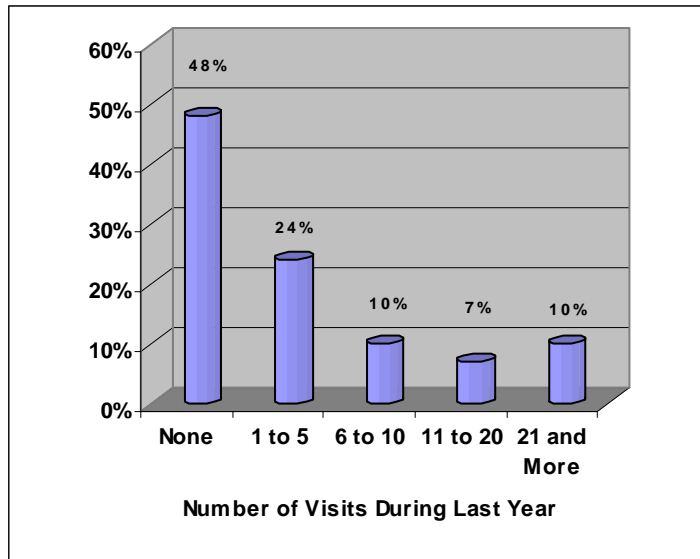
Source: 2000 Community Survey

Parks and Recreation

When asked, “Is there a Town park near you?”, nearly two-thirds of the respondents indicated that there was. Residents were also asked how often they used them and the results are shown in Exhibit F-4. About half did not use a Town park during the last year and another one-quarter used a park between one and five times.

Over 61 percent of the respondents (who voiced their opinion) felt that the Town should further develop its park system. Those supporting park expansion were then asked to indicate what activities should be developed. Those activities receiving the highest levels of support are listed in Exhibit F-5. It is interesting to note that all top ten facilities are for unorganized activities. Little support was voiced for recreational facilities for organized sports like soccer and baseball.

Exhibit F-4. Use of Town Parks: 2000



Source: 2000 Community Survey (Question 29)

**Exhibit F-5. Recreation Facilities Favored by Survey
Respondents Wanting More Facilities: 2000**

Priority	Facility	Votes Received
1	Nature areas	180
2	Bike trails	167
3	Hiking trails	148
4	Outdoor swimming pool	146
5	Outdoor ice rink	137
6	Sledding hills	133
7	Cross country ski trails	107
8	Picnic areas	105
9	Dog walking parks	88
10	Indoor swimming pool	84

Source: 2000 Community Survey (Question 31)

Also, many of the activities (e.g. nature area, sledding hills, trails for bike, hiking and cross country skiing and picnic areas) complement one another and could be incorporated into a single park area if large enough. Given the costs of developing and maintaining a swimming pool, the Town should investigate the potential of developing a joint facility with the Village and other interested local units of government.

Public Facilities Plan

Having looked at existing types and levels of service and resident's attitudes, this section identifies those community facilities that will be needed to accommodate a growing population and increased commercial and industrial activity. Some of the needs identified are within the traditional scope of Town involvement. On the other hand, some of the listed facilities are traditionally provided through the private sector or by another unit of government. Even though the Town cannot provide all of these services/facilities, they are included here as a community facility.

Exhibit F-6 lists all of the community facilities and identifies if it will be adequate throughout the planning period and recommended approaches to correct deficiencies if any exist. Map F-2

shows the location of selected community facilities and recommended locations for citing new facilities.

Exhibit E-6. Community Facility Assessment: 2000 to 2020

Town Facilities	2000 to 2010				2011 to 2020			
	Adequate	Expand Existing	Improve Existing	Add New/ Replace	Adequate	Expand Existing	Improve Existing	Add New/ Replace
Town Hall	X						X	
Police Station	X				X			
Fire Station	X				X			
EMS Station	X				X			
Town Garage	X						X	
Community Center			X(1)		X			
Senior Citizen Center			X(1)		X			
Sewer Collection Mains				X (2)		X (2)		
Stormwater Facilities				X (3)				X (3)
Parks			X	X			X	X
Cemeteries	X				X			
Facilities Provided by Others								
Sewage Treatment Facility	X					X		
Library	X				X			
Health Care Facilities	X				X			
Child Care Facilities		X		X		X		X
Schools	X					X (4)	X (4)	X (4)
Telecommunication Facilities		X(5)				X(5)		
Power Generator Plant	X					X		
Transmission Lines	X					X		

1. Should upgrade the former Town Hall and add some off-street parking if possible.
2. Install sewer mains to serve high-density residential development as depicted in the Future Land use Map.
3. Stormwater detention/retention basins needed in high-density residential areas and in commercial/industrial areas.
4. Build/improve/expand schools to accommodate growth.
5. Fiber optic lines needed.

Goals, Objectives, Policies, and Recommendations

The goals, objectives, policies and recommendations for this element are found in Chapter B.

Map F-2 Facilities Plan 2000 to 2020